## GRAY AND HIS MONEY

A MYSTERIOUS TEXAS CITIZEN AND HIS SHOWER OF GOLD COIN.

He Scatters Money Freely, Relieves the Poor, Buys Pianos and Disappears Like a Will-o'-the-Wisp.

Caldwell (Tex.) Letter in St. Louis Globe-

A few years ago not a day passed that John Gray did not surprise the people of Caldwell, Tex. Very frequently he operated upon a scale of such magnificence and mystery as to lead the astonished citizens to believe that he possessed the open sesame to treasures beyond computation, or carried Aladdin's lamp in his pocket. One of his many, and, perhaps, the most extraordinary of all his performances, culminated in causing a pretty two-story cottage, pain ed, carpeted and furnished in the most luxurious style, to spring into existence, as it were, in a single night. At that Mr. Gray lived on his fine ranch, some eighteen miles from the city. His friends had often invited him to come to town to live. He said that he intended to do that very thing some fine day or night, and, in pursuance of this idea, he purchased a desirable building lot on one of the best streets in the little city.

One very pretty spring morning about three years ago a lady on Magnolia street threw open a window of her house and saw a pretty cottage which stood upon a spot of ground where the last rays of the setting sun of the previous evening had fallen upon a vacant lot covered with green grass. Others saw it, and people could hardly believe their eyes. A half dozen of the bolder ones walked into the street and began to may to each other, "What is it? Who did it? Is it really a house?" It certainly was a house, a very pretty cottage, which had sprung into existence without the noise of hammer or saw during the night. There were forest trees in the yard of a quarter of a century's growth, two living greyhounds were lying upon the porch and a little blue smoke was slowly rising from one of the flues. The front door was sud-denly thrown open and John Gray came out on the porch with a newspaper in his hand, and in the most careless and indifferent manner imaginable said: "Good picion of foul play, and yet month after morning, ladies and gentlemen. Won't you month has passed and John Gray has not the mouse was the sacred animal of A come in?" The amazed citizens knew the been heard from. He has vanished like a land mice were fed in his temples. Hitherto he had only been regarded as an source of whose great wealth was involved in mystery. Now they were ready to swear that they saw a magician.

MYSTERY OF JOHN GRAY. This strange man had been living in the country about two years. He had improved one of the finest ranches in the State, and erected a palace on it, spending money as if he picked it from trees. He made no sceret in saying that he came from the diamond fields of South Africa, where he had luckly accumulated a large fortune. The people had called him "The Diamo" King," and had regarded him as a harmless, eccentric character, with ten thousand times money than brains. He made his debut in the town in his shirt sleeves, with his breeches stuffed in his boot-legs, and sistible desire to make everybody happy. He went about giving money to every school, church or charity that he could hear of. He paid off old mortgages for his neighbors and gave \$20 gold pieces to chil-dren. The poor around him were clothed and fed. Those who were in want simply asked and they received. He gave employment to every laborer that came to his ranch, and he was constantly importuning his neighbors to let him help them along

People did not know what to make of him and they only hoped that he would live al-ways and that the source of his wonderful wealth would never grow less. They had not found him out all at once. It took them a year or more to discover something of the mysterious ways of their benefactor. Some thought that John Gray had found the old Spanish gold mine, up in the Llano mountains, of which much has been written the books of Mexico. Others that he ere a Mexican pack trail of the last century, en route from old Mexico to San Augustine, had been butchered by Indians. Every old Texan has heard the story of that train—heard how the Indians folswed it, and finally murdered the last man. It all happened right about here, so the story runs, on the old San Antonio road. The Mexicans had buried a dozen mule loads of gold. No doubt, said a great many people, this strange man has found the hidden treasure. John Gray spoke Spanish like a native, and that was some evidence against him. Others who had read a half ozen books were firmly convinced that John Gray and Cagliostro were one and the same. "Let him alone," said the wise ones, "he is Cagliostro. He has lived from the beginning of time and will go on forever, and he can make gold doubloons as easy as your wife can make biscuits."

THE HAND OF MIDAS. Mr. Gray enjoyed life, and nothing gave and far above and beyond their troubles. He often did this kind of work openly, but mysterious way. For a time people thought the woods were full of good spirits, and in the barns, houses and yards of the farmers. A poor ranchman lost a pair of plow horses—all he had. His corn and cotton were in the weeds, and his horses could not be found. The man was in despair. One morning he went to his stable and saw a splendid pair of horses tied to the manger. "The good Lord has sent them to us," said his wife. "Hitch them to the No owner ever came for the ani-

s of a cruel creditor awoke morning to find a barrel of flour inside of his yard gate. His children had not tasted bread for two days. When his wife went to scoop out a little flour to make some biscuits she also scooped out two or three twenty-dellar gold pieces. Then the farmer's wife got a sifter and sifted 2000 in gold out of that barrel of "Just a little more than the amount of old Skinflint's mortgage on our farm,

A neighbor's house burned to the ground. John Gray took a sufficient force of laborers and mechanics and rebuilt it. A me-nagerie and circus came to Caldwell. Everybody wanted to go to the show. The people of that particular portion of Uncle Sam's dominion are good judges of shows, and are at all times peculiarly enthusiastic on the subject, though hundreds are ever compelled on account of financial stringency to be content with the street parade and such other auxiliary entertainments as said: "Give me a thousand tickets, if you The astounded agent hesitated. "Certainly I mean it," said the imperturbable Mr. Gray, while he coolly proceeded to count out \$500 in gold. Everybody, even poorest of the poor, saw the elephant, the lions, the monkeys, the white horses and the clown. John Gray was foremost in the throng, and he apparently nearly burst with enjoyment. Such extravagance, such awful liberality had never been heard of before. People now began to believe in dead earnest that the man knew how to make \$20 gold pieces out of brick dust, or

A day or two after the show Mr. Gray attended a school exhibition, and he fel in of rubbing blood on the boot of the man love with the graduating class of twe've who is being experimently chased for traingirls all the evening. Next morning he stepped into a music store and said to the first clerk he me:. "How do you sell nim the instruments commanded different prices. "Your best," said Mr. Gray. "What are your best ones worth?" The clerk replied that "\$450 would buy a very superior instrument." "All right," said John Gray, "I will take a do en" and, without wal ing for the astounded clerk to get his breath, he wrote out a check for \$5,400. "I guess you will find that all right over at the bank." said Mr. Gray as he walked into the street after the manner of a man who had caressly made a purchase of a dozen clears.

A few days afterward each of the fortunate young lady graduates received a fine plano with the compliments of John Gray. A SURPRISE FOR A TOWN. and sniffed him over they manifest no further interest in him."

one anticipated the surprise that was in store for the town. One fine day John Gray drove into the city behind a pair of great big male deer-three or four year old stags passed for their pur with long antiers. They were harnessed to flavor, All grocers.

a light buggy and answered to the word, the lines and the whip like a pair of well-broke trotters. The whole town turned out to witness the diamond king's latest surprise. The animals appeared perfectly do-cile. Young ladies tied ribbons on their horns, and several of the graduates, who had made an impression upon the strange man's heart, enjoyed a drive through the principal streets of the town behind a team that would certainly have created a great sensation in any of the great cities of the world. Old plainsmen said that in 1850 a Canadian had made the trip to Pike's Peak with a pair of elk yoked to a light wagon, but they maintained that no one had ever before succeeded in breaking a pair of wild Western deer to harness.

John Gray was brimful of enjoyment over the wonder and amazement that his magic cottage had aroused. He had heard that they had called him Cagliostro, and he laughed about it. After a few days he appeared to take great pleasure in explaining the mystery. "Nothing could have been easier," he said. "I had the cottage built out here in the woods only a few miles from town. It was constructed on rollers. I furnished it and did everything in a way that attracted no one's attention. I had the route surveyed and every obstacle removed beforehand. My workmen were all sworn to secrecy. The forest trees were dug up and lashed to wagons. I simply selected a quiet night and quietly we rolled the house on the lot and planted the trees. Everything had been so perfectly arranged that in action and planted the trees are larged that in action and planted the trees. omplishing our purpose it was hardly necessary to utter a word. I had no other ob ect in view than simply to amuse and em

ploy myself and surprise the public."

He certainly surprised the public—so much so that there are hundreds of people who are not satisfied with Mr. Gray's very open and liberal explanation of the magic cottage. With them he is still Cagliostro, or at least one who possesses powers beyond the

knowledge of ordinary mortals.

The blazing of a meteor in the sky is not more sudden than the disappearance of John Gray. One fine morning the places that had known him knew him no more. He was seen at his country residence in the evening The next morning the house was closed. The magic cottage was closed. Day after day passed and nothing was heard of the "diamond king." Friends went into the fine house on the ranch. Everything was in order. The house looked as if the owner had gone for a walk. A big chair with a pair of slippers by the side of it was in front of the fireplace. An open book and a hafsmoked cigar was on the table by the side of the chair. An old negro may and his old wife were in the cabin in the back yard. They were as ignorant and as innocent as the birds in the trees. Nothing had been disturbed. A thorough and searching investigation by the most acute and accomolished experts disclosed no trace of the extraordinary man. "After supper," said the old negro, "he was seated in his hair smoking and reading. A few moments afterwards he was not there." There is no susner of his disappearance. It is just as if you were to put your hand into a bucket of water and withdraw it. Can it be possible that he has another surprise in store for the people whom he maintained he loved so well?

MAN-HUNTING BLOODHOUNDS. The Use of Dogs in Trailing Criminals in the Far West.

San Francisco Examiner. The use of bloodhounds as an adjunct of the police department is becoming more and more common in various sections of the Union. This is particularly the case in the

During the days of slavery dogs were used throughout the South to run down fugitive slaves, but for many years after the war man-hunting with hounds was ai-most unheard of. Now and again it was tried, but lack of training in the dogs and perhaps want of patience in their owners brought about so many failures that the practice was almost forgotten. Ten years ago, when two desperate men held up a train on the Atlantic & Pacific, in the Southwest, and secured many thousands of dollars in booty, a ranchman in Arizona offered to trace the highwaymen if a sufficient force for their capture was furnished him and a reward for his trouble offered. These preliminaries being settled, he appeared on the scene twenty-four hours after he crime had been committed, with a coua Winchester rifle. He was ragged in costume, and apparently ragged mentally, but as the result proved knew what he was about. "Keep your eye on them dogs, and your hands on your 'weepons'—there's going to be more or less fun," was all he had to say to his associates in starting. Three days later, after a weary chase of in the world, the dogs came up with and cornered the highwaymen. The latter killed both of the dogs, but before they could escape the pursuing posse was upon them and they surrendered. They afterward confessed their guilt and told where the booty was hidden. Nearly \$50,000 was recovered. The amount of money involved and satisfactory work of the bloodhounds revived the old practice of trailing men with dogs, and there are now hundreds of the useful animals in the possession of the peace officers of the West. They are carefully bred and trained for the police duties. In California the sheriffs of a dozen counties have these four-legged deputies and not infrequently they prove more faithful and successful than their two-legged associates. The best hounds in California have been taken there from other States where their breeding is made a business. Some of the animals have long pedigrees. The Examiner told recently of a valuable addition to the sheriff's force at Nevada City. It is a five-months-old pup christened "Jim Budd," after the Governor of California. Young Jim Budd was born amid the green mountains of old Vermont, at the kennels of J L. Winchell, at Fair Haven. His sire's official name on the record book of the En-glish Bloodhound Club of American is "Champion Victor, 19,365," and his maternal ancestor's designation on the same archives is "Champion Judith, 13,870." There's a Duchess in his family tree, a Premier and a Nestor, showing a union of nobility and brains not far back on the record. In color that witches of a benevolent kind were Jim is black and tan, and he has a mouth that alone is worth an arsenal of rifles at any jail. "A natural born man trailer" is

the cheering character given Jim by the Fresno has six bloodhounds and the genial burglar who has been having a good time for months past is seriously considering a change. One of the Fresno dogs is by the famous "Leader," who has captured more train robbers than any dog living. In one instance Leader took the trail of one train robber four days after he had left the house in which he stayed all night. The dog fol-lowed the trail six days and treed his man. Sheriff Jack Jones, of Stockton, has the reputation of being one of the greatest criminal catchers in the West. He uses six dogs and is on the go with them all the time. Leader, the pet, is by Old Romulus, owned by the State of Arkansas and imported from Cuba. All the dogs owned by Mr. Jones are either imported Cubans or

from imported stock. Monterey county is one of such vast dimensions, and at the same time so sparsely populated, that since the days of Vasquez, the desperado, its rolling hills, densely covered with chaparral, and its tule lands have always proven a refuge for criminals. Owing to these almost inaccessible districts in the county Sheriff J. L. Matthews saw the necessity of securing bloodhounds to help him in trailing refugees. In 1893 he sent to Krutchfield, the overseer of the convict farm at Carrol's Prairie, Tex., for some bloodhounds. He soon had cause to put them in active service, for shortly after are given gratuitously outside of the great | their arrival the despredations took place canvas. John Gray was well posted, and at Seaside and Pacific Grove, for which when the eventful day arrived he walked | Amos Virgin is now serving a life sentence through the crowd to the ticket wagon and In San Quentin. A few months ago the said: "Give me a thousand tickets, if you hounds did the county a valuable service in trailing the murderer of conductor Haines, who was shot and killed below Soledad They followed the trail for twenty-five miles until they found the criminal. For the most part these counties and others find the dogs so useful that the animals

bring very large prices now. There is considerable literature on bloodhounds. One of the best short treatises is by Edwin Brough, of Scarborough, England. He tells how pups should be be fed on oatmeal porridge, stewed sheep's heads and ship's biscuits, and gives minute directions as to training the youngsters "to hunt the clean boot." He discourages the practice who is being experimently chased for train-

Mr. Brough is quite an enthusiast in the bloodhound man-chasing business, and to The young man smiled and told him it has as much fascination as tennis or football to the sporting man of quieter tastes. He says among other things; "Any one who is fond of seeing hounds work, but who has only a limited amount of country to hunt over, will find an immense amount of pleasure in hunting a man with one or two couples of bloodhounds. In such circumstances it is a great convenlence to be able to select the exact course, which could not be done if hunting some animal, and a great variety of differ-

ent runs can be contrived over limited "I know nothing more delightful than to see bloodhounds working out a scent carefully under varying circumstances, and to hear their sonorous, deep, bell-like note, There is not, of course, the slightest danger to the runner, even if the hounds had never seen him before. When they have come up

Huyler's Cocoa and Chocolates are unsur-

### SUPERSTITIONS

NEARLY EVERYTHING WORTH EAT-ING WAS ONE TIME TABOOED.

For One Reason and Another Fruits, Meats and Vegetables Have Been in Forbidden Articles.

L. J. Vance, in New York Post. In a recent issue of the Evening Post the writer noted some superstitions about bread. Not less curious and interesting is the folklore which has clustered around

the various articles of food. From the days of Adam and Eve to the present time there has been not only forbidden fruit, but forbidden meats and vegetables. For one reason or another people have resolutely refused to eat any and the turtle, and the eel-these, to name only

health and digestion. other hand, swine's flesh was highly es-This fact is revealed by many references to | more than six gallons. pig as a dainty bit of food. At the great festival held annually in honor of Demeter, roast pig was the piece de resistance in the bill of fare, because the pig was the sacred animal of Demeter. Aristophanes, in "The Frogs," makes one of the characters hint that some of the others "smell of roast pig." These people undoubtedly had been at the festival (known as the Thesmophoria) and had eaten freely of roast pig. Those who took part in another Greek mystery or festival (Known as the Eleusinia) abstained from certain food, and above all

in China and in some parts of India. But the ancient Egyptians, Greeks and Jews abhorred mice and would not touch mouse meat. Rats and field mice were sacred in old Egypt, and were not to be eaten on this account. So, too, in some parts of Greece, the mouse was the sacred animal of Apollo, weasel and the mouse, and the tortoise after his kind." These came under the designation of unclean animals, which were to be avoided. But people have abstained from eating kinds of flesh which could not be called unclean. For example, the people of Thebes, as Herodotus tells us, abstained from sheep. What is the matter with mutton chops Then, the ancients used to abstain from certain vegetables. Indeed, the Romans sneered at those Egyptians who did not dare to eat onions, leeks or garlic. And yet

the Romans themselves were superstitious about what they ate, or what they should

Again, as we all know, mice are esteemed

PLUTARCH'S QUERY. In his "Roman Questions," Plutarch asks: Why do the Latins abstain strictly from the flesh of the woodpecker?" In order to answer Plutarch's question correctly it is necessary to have some idea of the peculiar custom and belief called "totemism." There is a stage of society in which people claim descent from and kinship with beasts, birds, vegetables and other objects. This object, which is a "totem," or family mark, they religiously abstain from eating. The members of the tribe are divided into clans or stocks, each of which takes the name of some animal, plant or object, as the bear, the buffalo, the woodpecker, the asparagus and so forth. No member of the bear family would dare to eat bear meat, but he has no objection to eating buffalo steak. Even the marriage law is based on this

belief, and no man whose family name is Wolf may marry a woman whose family name is also Wolf. In a general way it may be said that almost all our food prohibitions spring from the extraordinary custom generally called were to ask the Yeke people why they do not eat zebra flesh, they would reply, 'chijila,' i. e., 'It is a thing to which we have an antipathy;' or better, 'It is one of the things which our fathers taught us not to eat." So it seems the word "Bashilang" means "the people who have an antipathy to the leopard;" the "Bashilamba," those who have an antipathy to the dog," and the "Bashilanzefu," "those who have an antipathy to the elephant." In other words, the members of these stocks refuse to eat their totems, the zebra, the leopard, or the elephant, from which they take

The survival of antipathy to certain foods was found among people as highly civilized as the Egyptians, the Greeks and the Romans. Quite a list of animals whose flesh was forbidden might be drawn up. For example, in old Egypt, the sheep could not be eaten in Thebes, nor the goat in Mendes, nor the cat in Bubastis, nor the crocodile at Ombos, nor the rat, which was sacred to Ra, the sun god. However, the people of one place had no scruples about eating the forbidden food of another place. And often led to religious disputes and

Among the vegetables tabooed as food b the Egyptians may be mentioned the only the garlic, and the leek. Lucian says that the inhabitants of Pelusium adored the onion. According to Pliny, the Egyptians used to swear by the leek and the onion. Juvenal pokes fun at those who thought it sin to eat them. He exclaims: "Surely a very religious nation and a blessed peace, where every garden is overrun with gods."

The survivals of totemism among the anthem of a large battery clent Greeks are very interesting. Families named after animals and plants were not uncommon. One Athenian gens, the loxidae, had for its ancestral plant the asparagus. We may be sure that this plant was tabooed as food to every man, woman and child of the Ioxidae.

ROMAN RITES. One Roman gens, the Piceni, took a woodpecker for its token, and every member of this family refused, of course, to eat the flesh of the woodpecker. In the same way as the nations of the Congo Free State, the Latins had an antipathy to certain kinds of food. However, an animal or plant forbidden in one place was eaten without any compunction in another place. "These local rites in Roman times," says Mr. Lang, "caused civil brawls, for the customs of one town naturally seemed blasphemous to neighbors with a different sacred animal. Thus when the people of dogtown were feeding on the fish called oxyrrhincus, the citizens of the town which revered the ox-yrrhyncus began to eat dogs. Hence rose a The antipathy of the Jews to pork has given rise to quite different explanations. The custom is probably a relic of totemistic belief. That the unclean animals-animals not to be eaten-such as the pig, the mouse, and the weasel, were originally totems of the children of Israel, Prof. Robertson sages in the Old Testament.

Smith believes is shown by various pas-When animals and plants ceased to be held sacred, they were endowed with sundry magical or mystic properties. The apple has been supposed to possess peculiar virtues, especially in the way of health. "The relation of the apple to health," says Mr. Conway, "is traceable to Arabia. Sometimes it is regarded as a bane. In Hessia it is said that an apple must not be eaten on New Year's day, as it will produce an ab-scess. But generally it is curative. In Pomerania it is eaten on Easter morning against fevers; in Westphalia (mixed with saffron) against jaundice; while in Silesia an apple is scraped from top to stalk to cure diarrhoea, and upwards to cure cos-

Acording to an old English fancy, if any one who is suffering from a wound in the head should eat strawberries, it will lead to fatal results. In the south of England the folk say that the devil puts his cloven foot upon the blackberries on Michaelmas day, and hence none should be gathered or eaten after that day. On the other hand in Scotland the peasants say that the devil throws his cloak over the blackberries and makes them unwholesome after that day, while in Ireland he is said to stamp on the

said that the fairies were fond of its leaves. and rode to their midnight dances on cabsay that "bables come out of the cabbage heads." The Irish "easent ties a cabbage leaf around the neck for sore throat. According to Gerarde, the Spartans ate watercress with their bread, firmly believing old proverb is, "Eat cress to learn more

lest it should make them timid, while the | wine with salicylic acid will change the warriors of some South American tribes eat | acid into salicylic ester or salicylic aldeof an English gentleman at Shanghai, who oid Rhine wines contain no free sulphurous at the time of the Taeping attack met his Chinese servant carrying home the heart of a rebel, which he intended to eat to make him brave. There is a certain amount of truth in the theory that the quality of food does not affect the mind and body. Buckle in his "History of Civilization" took this view, and tried to prove that the character of a people depends on their diet. His notion has been cleverly parodied, as fol-

"Would you know the mental march? It depends on dates and starch, Carbon animates ambition, Oxygen controls volition. Whatever is great and good in men May be found in hydrogen."

REVOLUTION IN GLASS.

Old Art of Blowing and Pressing Superseded by New Methods.

New York Evening Sun. What is practically a new art has been developed in France within the past two years. It is a process for working glass vessels and pipes to large sizes. This process the leek, the asparagus, the woodpecker, is in itself so simple that it is hard to the pigeon, the goose, the deer, the bear, realize why it was not discovered years ago. The glass industry is one of the oldest a few eatables, have been avoided as if known to man, and yet centuries passed unwholesome or postively injurious to and the use of the substance was confined to plates for windows and vessels of small As we all know, the Jews have long had sizes, which was made by pressing or blowan hereditary antipathy to pork. On the ing. Heretofore the glass manufacturer has considered it an achievement to make by teemed by the ancient Greeks and Romans. | the old methods a vessel which would hold

> To one of the leading scientists of France is due the credit for the discovery of the new and valuable process by which glass pipes can be made to compare in size and strength with those of iron and earthenware, and glass vessels can be manufactured of any needed dimensions and fashioned to almost any shape from a simple jar to a bathtub or coffin. This is done by

The problem of molding glass is an old one that many ingenious men tried in vain for years to solve. The best illustration that can be given of this successful process is the casting of a section of drain pipe. The cylindrical mold is placed in an upright position, with a core at the lower end ready to be shoved upward. A large lump of the molten glass is then placed in the bottom of the mold resting on the head of the core. When the core is pushed upward the viscous substance flows down about its sides, filling all the space between it and the mold. The glass is allowed to harden splendid piece of glass pipe, uniform in strength and thickness, and perfectly smooth on its surface. All the other forms into which the glass is worked are made on precisely the same principle, that of forcing the core upward into the mold, By this method is attained what has hitherto been unknown in glass vessels-uni-The old methods of expanding the glass

n a mold by air or forcing it into a mold about a core have proved utterly impractical in any vessels other than those a few cubic feet in size, for when, in the former process, the glass blower places his sphere of the viscous substance in a square mold and blows, the glass necessarily expands unevenly in filling the corners. It is obvious that glass must in the future occupy an enormously extended field of usefulness as a result of this revolution in the art of manufacturing it. It possesses four qualities which insure this—it is cheap. impervious to all acids except hydroflouric, cleanly, and, if properly cared for, it is practically indestructible.

No better sanitary drainage can be con-ceived than that which will be afforded by glass pipes. Iron pipes rust out, and the glass pipes. Iron pipes rust out, and the glaze on clay pipes, now so generally used, cracks and the pipes absorb the refuse matter flowing through them and become unhealthy. Again, the problem of sewage will be greatly simplified. The sewers in most cities are simply brick ducts. They constantly get out of repair, as the brick and mortar absorb the sewage and consequently decay. Glass sewers will be absorbed. quently decay. Glass sewers will be absolutely unaffected by these conditions and will allow the passage of a greater volume of sewage than any other kind of duct of equal cross section, since the skin friction is very small. France has been the first country to utilize glass for this purpose, for already several of its cities are laying glass

A decade ago there was great opposition

in large cities to the introduction of electricity as a means for transmitting en-ergy. This arose in part from the fact that the heavy currents which traverse the earth as a consequence destroy by the pro-cess of electrolysis the iron pipes with which they come in contact. The fact that which they come in contact. The fact that this electrolysis does occur is well known, and the pecuniary loss caused to gas and water companies is not small.

This trouble will be done away with by the introduction of glass pipes, which will be totally unaffected by electrical currents, as glass is a nonconductor. The actual transmission of electrical energy underground will be rendered easier and cheaper. At present when wires are carried un derground they are encased in iron pipes which magnetize, with the ultimate result of causing a resistance to the passage of the current in the wire itself. The loss of energy resulting is considerable. This rouble will be eliminated by the use of glass pipe, the nonconducting properties of which warrant its introduction to this field. It is expected to prove of particular value in protecting wires carrying high tension

It is interesting to note that a glass pipe can be made by the new process of the same size and strength as an iron pipe at almost the same cost.

The manufacturers of electrical storage batteries have hailed the new process with delight, since one of the knotty problems they have had to deal with has been that of getting suitable vessels for the immersion of the battery plates. The largest glass jars that have been made in this foot in cube, a size greatly inadequate for Consequently the electricians have been compelled to use large vessels made of wood lined with lead. These are difficult to keep clean and to insulate properly. The great glass tanks which have been put in use recently have proved admirably suited to the purpose, as they are clean, afford excellent insulation and are absolutely impervious to the acids used in the batteries. Pottery will find in glass a powerful rival, for the latter will supersede it in all works where chemicals are used, in canning and pickle factories and creameries. Hereto-fore the manufacturers of chemicals have used clay pots, glazed inside. Quantities of these are destroyed yearly by the powerful acids. In handling many of these acids it has been necessary to use tubs of platinum a very costly metal. As glass tubs can now molded, these primitive vessels of earth must necessarily be relegated to the past. The glass bathtub, too, is a novelty. The faults of iron and porcelain when used for this purpose are well known. Glass tubs will be cleaner and stronger than porcelain, and can be used also for sulphur baths. It is said that the influence of this glass revolution will extend even to the undertaker,

ANTISEPTICS IN FOOD. Their Growing Use a Possible Danger to Health.

British Medical Journal. The recent prosecution for selling orange wine containing a little over three grains to the pint of salicylic acid suggests the propriety of discussing shortly the general question of preserving foods by antiseptics. Wines are sulphured and doctored with salicylic acid, fluoborates and fluosilicates; to milk in hot weather all sorts of antiseptics are added, the chief being bora-cic acid, varied of late by the addition of formalin. Boracic acid or borax is also the favorite antiseptic for butters. It may indeed be stated generally that all decomposable articles not sterilized by boiling or preserved from change by cold, are liable to be treated with small quantities of antiseptics. There may not be in any one article a percentage sufficient to cause, when given in a single dose, appreciable effect, but a person taking boraxed milk and butter for breakfast and tea, and a salicylated wine for dinner, will be consuming day by day a sufficient amount of active drugs to produce some effect on his

Salicylic acid is a poison. In 1878 a case happened in which so small a dose as three grammes (46 grains) caused death in forty hours; possibly the acid was impure. In three other cases in which decided and dangerous symptoms were produced the dose was much larger, being fifteen, twenty-two and fifty grammes, respectively. Salicylic been invested with some mystery. It was and benzoin acids are, therapeutically, attenuated phenols. Phenol being most pol-sonous, then comes salicylic acid, and lastbagestalks. The German women used to ly benzoin acid. What the effect of small doses of salicylic acid, say five grains daily, may be is at present a matter of conjecture; we know that most of it is excreted by the kidneys united with glycocoll, and also that it is a substance which readily that it increased their wit and wisdom. The enters into combination, forming a variety of aldehydes and esters, the physiological effects of which are not precisely the same There is another phase to food supersti- as the free acid. It is conceivable that tions, and that is the theory that the quali- small quantities of salicylic acid when ties of the eaten pass into the eater. Mr. they come in contact with the intestinal passed for their purity and deliciousness of Tylor refers to the habit of the Dyak and gastric juices are in this way changed. Havor, All grocers.

the meat of tigers, stags and boars for hyde. Schmitt, for instance, has found that courage and speed. He mentions the story although Rhine wines are sulphured, the acid, the greater portion having combined with aldehyde, forming aldehyde-sulphur-

Be this as it may, the growing use of antiseptics constitutes a possible danger to health. Persons with sound excretory organs have for years daily taken chemicals of the kind in their food without injury, yet persons with damaged or weak kidneys will be affected by minute doses. It must also be remembered that digestion in the intestines is carried on to a great extent by what, outside the intestines, would be recognized as a fermentative or putrefactive process. In short, just as the nourishment of a number of plants depends on the mi-crobes around their rootlets, so the assimilation of our own nourishment depends to a. large degree on the activity of hosts of colonles of microbes in the intestinal canal.
All antiseptics, even in minute quantity,
will inhibit the activity of these colonies or effect unequally various species, the net result in ordinary individuals being an impairment of digestion or an actual dyspep-

DU MAURIER'S ONE TROUBLE.

Ever Since Youth He Has Been Threatened with Loss of Sight.

Westminster Budget. In the course of a talk Du Maurier decribed a tragic affair that occurred at the Antwerp Academy, where he was studying under De Keyser and Van Lerius. "It was on a day in Van Lerius's studio," he said, "that the great tragedy of my life

The voice of Du Maurier, who till then had been chatting with animation, suddenly fell, and over his face came an indefinable expression of mingled terror and anger and

beset me constantly. That was the most tragic event of my life. It poisoned all my

and walked around the room, cigarette in

"In the spring of 1859 we heard of a great said that, though the left eye was certainly lost. I had no reason to fear losing the other, but that I must be very careful, and not drink beer or eat cheese, and so on. It was very comforting to know that I was not to be blind, but I have never shaken off the terror of that apprehension.

"My life was a very prosperous one from the outset in London. I was married in 1863, and my wife and I never once knew financial troubles. My only trouble has been my fear about my eyes. Apart from that I have been very happy."

AMUSEMENTS. **JANUARY 16, 17 AND 18,** WAGNER OPERA By the Famous

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Greatest Wagnerian Artists. New York Symphony Orchestra. Seventy-Five Musicians.

Chorus of Eighty Voices.

Magnificent scenery by Kautski, of Vienna; new and beautiful costumes.

**TANNHAUSER** FRIDAY, JAN. 17, DIE WALKURE SATURDAY, JAN. 18,

front rows balcony, \$8. For Single Concerts: Orchestra and orchestra circle, \$4; dress circle and front rows palcony, \$3; rear rows balcony, \$2.50; gal-Sale of season tickets only now in progress at Pembroke Arcade. Sale for sinperformances will begin Saturday,

THE DAMROSCH LECTURES. SPECIAL NOTICE-Mr. Walter Damrosch will give a recital-lecture on "Die Walkure," Thursday afternoon, Jan. 16, and on "Die Meistersinger," Friday afternoon, Jan. 17, at the Propylaeum, under the aus-

LADIES' MATINEE MUSICALE. opera. Admission for others, 50 cents.

The World's Greatest Planist, At ENGLISH'S OPERA HOUSE, SATURDAY NIGHT,

Advance Sale now open at Pembroke Arcade. PRICES-Lower floor, \$3; balcony, \$2; gallery, \$1.50.

ENGLISH'S-To-Morrow Eve

Catch - as - Catch - Can Wrestling Match \$150 a Side-Winner Takes all Receipts. PRICES-Lower floor, 5,1c; balcony, 25c.

PARK-Prices-10c, 20c, 30c. To-morrow and All Week.

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Opossum Fur Muffs, full size. satin lined, a great value.

"I was drawing from a model, when suddenly the girl's head seemed to me to dwindle to the size of a walnut. I clapped my hand over my left eye. Had I been mistaken? I could see as well as ever. But when in its turn I covered my right eye, learned what had happened. My left eye had failed me; it might be altogether lost. It was so sudden a blow that I was as thunderstruck. Seeing my dismay, Van Lerius came up and asked me what might be the matter; and when I told him, he said that it was nothing, that he had had that himself, and so on. And a doctor whom I anxiously consulted that same day comforted me, and said that the accident was a passing one. However, my eye grew worse and worse, and the fear of a total blindness

Du Maurier, as though to shake off a troublesome obsession, rose from his chair,

ENGLISH'S Extra DAMROSCH

190-ARTISTS-190

THURSDAY, JAN. 16,

DIE MEISTERSINGER

Season Ticket, Three Concerts: Orchestra and orchestra circle, \$10; dress circle and

Admission to these two lectures will be ree to purchasers of season tickets for the

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Introducing 'he most extraordinary array of Vaude-ville Talent ever combined in one organization,

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Women's and Children's Coats, Capes. Furs, Hosiery and Underwear for All Dress Goods of Every Description .

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er Jackets, ages 4 to 10.

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Youths' Long Pants—three-piece Suits—ages 14 to 18. Boys' fine Cassimere and Chev-tot Knee Pants Suits; ages 5 to 14. Youths' Blue Chinchilla Ulstera, ages 6 to 14—very cheap. M/ 0-The Star Stone

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PRICES—Night: Side boxes, \$1.50; rest of lower floor, \$1; balcony (reserved), 55c; balcony (admission), 50c; gallery, 25c. Matinee—Proscenium boxes, \$1.50; side boxes, \$1; rest of lower floor, 75c; balcony (reserved), 50c; gallery, 2 c. TOMLINSON HALL



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Surpassing any previous show ever given in the West.

The greatest aggregation of the kind ever under one roof.

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